(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for such decision?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Malpractices adopted by petroleum dealers

3188. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large scale malpractices such as adulteration, underweighing etc. are being done by the petrol pumps-LPG-Kerosene dealers as well as other dealers of petroleum products in the country; and

(b) if so, what corrective measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken to curb these malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) Some cases of adulteration, short supply etc. have been detected. Steps such as blue dyeing of PDS Kerosene, periodical inspection of the retail outlets, introduction of tamper proof locking system for tanker-trucks, special vigilance drives, etc. are taken by the Oil Marketing Companies. Action is taken by the Companies against erring dealers under the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines and/or Dealership Agreement. Also, under the provisions of the "Kerosene (Restriction on Use and Fixation of Ceiling Price) Order, 1993", Oil Companies and State Governments can initiate action against any dealer indulging in adulteration and also for misusing public distribution kerosene for purposes other than those permitted. In addition, the Government have also constituted Anti Adulteration Cell to overview the issues arising out of adulteration.